

The result was announced—yeas 89, nays 0, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 150 Ex.]

YEAS—89

Alexander	Fischer	Merkley
Ayotte	Flake	Moran
Baldwin	Franken	Murphy
Barrasso	Gillibrand	Murray
Baucus	Graham	Nelson
Begich	Grassley	Paul
Bennet	Hagan	Portman
Blumenthal	Hatch	Pryor
Blunt	Heinrich	Reed
Boozman	Heitkamp	Reid
Boxer	Heller	Risch
Brown	Hirono	Roberts
Burr	Hoeven	Rockefeller
Cantwell	Isakson	Rubio
Cardin	Johanns	Sanders
Carper	Johnson (SD)	Schatz
Casey	Johnson (WI)	Schumer
Chambliss	Kaine	Scott
Chiesa	King	Sessions
Coats	Kirk	Shaheen
Collins	Klobuchar	Stabenow
Coons	Landrieu	Tester
Corker	Leahy	Thune
Cornyn	Lee	Udall (CO)
Cowan	Levin	Udall (NM)
Crapo	Manchin	Warner
Cruz	McCain	Warren
Donnelly	McCaskill	Whitehouse
Durbin	McConnell	Wyden
Feinstein	Menendez	

NOT VOTING—11

Coburn	Inhofe	Toomey
Cochran	Mikulski	Vitter
Enzi	Murkowski	Wicker
Harkin	Shelby	

The nomination was confirmed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the motions to reconsider are considered made and laid upon the table. The President will be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senate will resume legislative session.

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. REID. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent the Senate proceed to a period of morning business from now until 6:40 p.m. to allow a colloquy between Senator BROWN and Senator ISAKSON.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. REID. When that time is up, I ask unanimous consent to be recognized.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The Senator from Georgia.

Mr. ISAKSON. I ask unanimous consent to be recognized along with Senator BROWN of Ohio for up to 15 minutes and to engage in a colloquy.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

THE CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL

Mr. ISAKSON. Madam President, I am proud to stand here today as a resident of Georgia and its capital city Atlanta, which is the home of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in

America, a great institution with which Senator BROWN and I are familiar. We want to talk about some of its great achievements today.

CDC is the Nation's health protection agency, but it is really the world's health protection agency. What CDC has done is build a strong national public health and disease detection network for working with State and local agencies, private partners, universities, and communities to stop disease and stop outbreaks.

By way of example, CDC led a multi-State response to last year's fungal meningitis outbreak that resulted in 745 infections and 58 deaths in 20 States. CDC identified and contained dangerous foodborne pathogen outbreaks, such as hepatitis A found in frozen berry blend; salmonella found in the poultry industry; and E. coli found in frozen food products.

CDC puts science into action every day to protect the American people, using breakthroughs such as microbial genomics to find outbreaks sooner, stop them earlier, and prevent them better in environmental hazards, biosecurity threats, and national disaster. CDC provided direct support within hours of Superstorm Sandy to the devastated northeast last year. We need to be able to be ready for this year's hurricane system as it deals with other public threats.

The CDC provides crucial information on the status of health risks to the American people. With data it helps determine the best options for preventing illness and reducing medical costs. At a time when the U.S. Government is not looked upon with a lot of favor by the American people, I think it is very interesting to note that a recent Gallup poll identified the CDC as the most trusted Federal Government agency with the American people. I think that is something to which we owe a tip of the hat.

Mr. BROWN. I thank Senator ISAKSON. I am so appreciative of the work the Senator has done with the Centers for Disease Control in his home State of Georgia. There is no Federal agency that is quite like the CDC in this country or across the world.

Our Nation's fiscal health cannot be strengthened at the expense of our Nation's public health. In the 21st century it is easy to overlook this country's public health safety net. Too often we take for granted that our children are not being crippled by polio or dying from whooping cough because we have immunizations. We take for granted that we have stronger teeth and less tooth decay because of water fluoridation in many of our communities. We take for granted that few people in this country now die of infectious diseases such as cholera and tuberculosis because we have made the kind of remarkable progress we have in sanitation, in hygiene, antibiotics, and disease surveillance. We take these advancements for granted because for over six decades the CDC has been

doing an extraordinary job of ensuring Americans have basic health protections.

The CDC's work, along with that of other public health advocates and researchers, is credited with increasing the average American's life expectancy over the last many decades, increasing the average American's life expectancy by 25 years—25 years, a quarter of a century longer because of our investment in public health.

The CDC's reach and responsibility, as intimated by Senator ISAKSON, is not limited by our country's borders. Due to globalization it matters a great deal how other countries respond to health threats. The CDC plays an essential role in helping its international partners react to these threats.

The CDC is the gold standard, the global leader in disease prevention and public health preparedness. Other nations follow our lead. Yet the CDC's leadership is not guaranteed. Even with its topnotch facilities and world-class staff, the CDC faces challenges to this continued leadership. The CDC's base budget authority is at its lowest level in a decade.

The fiscal year 2013 budget is about \$600 million below its fiscal year 2012 level. This reduction undercuts the health security of all Americans, even those who never once think of the existence of the Centers for Disease Control. The reduction in the CDC budget has harmful, immediate, and long-term consequences across the United States and around the world. This reduction affects the ability of our State and local health departments to provide on-the-ground services.

As my friend from Georgia explained during his discussion of the deadly fungal meningitis outbreak, funding the CDC is critical to the foundation of our public health. When we invest in CDC, we invest in the health of families in Lorain, OH, and Cuyahoga Falls, OH. When we invest in CDC, we support programs such as the Epidemiology Laboratory Capacity Program which addresses infectious disease threats.

When we invest in the CDC, we ensure that our State and local health departments on the frontlines are able to detect the first signs of outbreak. Without this critical funding, we leave ourselves vulnerable to the initial spread of health threats, such as fungal meningitis and emerging new diseases such as the MERS coronavirus and the novel H7N9 avian flu virus, which we read about. Unfortunately, public health departments across the Nation have already lost thousands of jobs and will lose more if our support of CDC continues to dwindle.

Before turning it back over to Senator ISAKSON, I would like to emphasize a point he made. The CDC responds to long-term health threats as well as to urgent immediate health dangers. These threats don't make the headlines. So much of CDC's work you never hear about, you never read about